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State Water Resources Control Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF PRE-WORKSHOP HEARING

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMALL COMMUNITY WASTEWATER GRANT PROGRAM

Monday, May 10, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.

Highgrove Room – Second Floor
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
3737 Main Street, Suite 500, Riverside, CA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will hold a "Pre-Workshop Hearing" to seek comments on the draft Guidelines for Implementation of the Small Community Wastewater Grant (SCWG) Program. At this hearing, interested parties may provide oral and written comments. The SWRCB will consider all comments received by May 17, 2004. The SWRCB will not take final action at the hearing. Comments received at this Hearing will be provided to the SWRCB for consideration at the SWRCB June 1, 2004 Workshop. The draft Guidelines will be considered for approval at a future SWRCB Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

Since 1984, the SWRCB has implemented financial assistance programs for wastewater facilities serving small, disadvantaged communities. These programs have provided grant assistance and were the result of several bonds approved by the voters in various statewide elections. Funding in the amount of approximately \$20 million dollars will be available statewide under this program. This funding has been made available through voter approval, in 2002, of Propositions 40 and 50. This funding is available to those communities that meet the following requirements:

- The community must fit the definition of a small community. Public Resource Code Section 30925 states that a " 'small community' means a municipality with a population of 20,000 persons or less."
- The community must have a financial hardship as determined by the SWRCB.

Historically, this SCWG funding has often been supplemented by loan funds from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program (or other loan/grant programs) to assist small communities in solving their wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal problems.

For additional background on the draft Guidelines and additional available documents, please see our web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/index.html>.

INPUT OPPORTUNITY ON THE SMALL COMMUNITY WASTEWATER GRANT PROGRAM

The SWRCB Division of Financial Assistance is now soliciting comments from interested parties and stakeholders on the implementation of the SCWG program.

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT GUIDELINES AND RELATED MATERIALS

Copies of the draft Guidelines, the Stakeholder Questionnaire, and the Supplement to the Questionnaire may be obtained at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/index.html>. You may also receive an electronic or paper copy by contacting Rachel Bosworth, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, 5550 Skyline Blvd., Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403; (707) 576-2542; FAX: (707) 523-0135; email at boswr@rbl.swrcb.ca.gov.

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Comments will be accepted, both written and oral, on the Guidelines, Questionnaire, and Supplement to the Questionnaire at the hearing. Comments must be limited to the draft Guidelines and Questionnaire. In order for the SWRCB to adequately consider written comments, all interested parties are requested to submit their comments no later than 5:00 p.m., May 17, 2004 by mail, facsimile, or email to:

David Kirn
Small Community Wastewater Grant Program
Division of Financial Assistance
State Water Resource Control Board
P.O. Box 94421
Sacramento, CA 94244
FAX: (916) 341-5707
EMAIL: kirnd@swrcb.ca.gov

At the hearing, participants are encouraged to briefly summarize their written comments. The Hearing Officer may impose time limitations on oral presentations. Persons with similar views are encouraged to make joint presentations. The SWRCB will consider all comments before taking final action on the draft Policy.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

The hearing and public parking locations are indicated on the enclosed maps.


Debbie Irvin
Clerk to the Board

Date: April 15, 2004

Enclosure (1)



Directions to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB) Office

The SARWQCB is located in downtown Riverside inside the California Tower Building, which is located on Main Street (a pedestrian mall) between University and Mission Inn Avenues.

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3348
Phone: (909) 782-4130 Fax: (909) 781-6288

From Ontario Airport (I-10 East) - Exit the terminal and take the eastbound I-10. From I-10 east, take I-15 south to Highway 60 east. Take the Market Street exit off of Highway 60. Turn right onto Market Street. Proceed through Mission Inn Avenue and turn left into parking structure. Parking structure is located directly behind California Tower office building.

From Los Angeles (HWY 60 East) - Take the Market Street exit off of Highway 60. Turn right onto Market Street. Proceed through Mission Inn Avenue and turn left into parking structure. Parking structure is located directly behind California Tower office building.

From Indio/San Diego (HWY 60 West/I-215 North) - From Highway 60 west/Interstate 215 north, take the Highway 91 west. Take the Mission Inn Avenue exit off of Highway 91. Turn right onto Mission Inn Avenue. Take Mission Inn Avenue to Market Street. Turn left onto Market Street. Turn left into parking structure. Parking structure is located directly behind California Tower office building.

From Orange County (HWY 91 East) - From Highway 91 east, take the University Avenue exit. Turn left onto University Avenue. Take University Avenue to Market Street. Turn right onto Market Street. Turn right into parking structure. Parking structure is located directly behind California Tower office building.

From San Bernardino (I-215 South) - From Interstate 215 south, continue on Highway 91 west. Take the Mission Inn Avenue exit off of Highway 91. Turn right onto Mission Inn Avenue. Take Mission Inn Avenue to Market Street. Turn left onto Market Street. Turn left into parking structure. Parking structure is located directly behind California Tower office building.



